

October 23, 2017

AUTHORS IN OUR MIDST

Everywhere you turn, authors are popping up in Burnaby Schools!

Armstrong Elementary Learning Support teacher, **Jillian Ma**, has written a book about a boy with autism called *In My World*. A book launch took place on September 23 at Coles in Lougheed Mall. A second book is already in the works.

Marlborough Elementary school teacher, **Emily Goldsmith**, has written a book called *Jordan and All The Favourites*. The story features gender-neutral names and illustrations by Susie Wilson. Her book launched at Chapters in Metrotown on September 30.

Amanda Zanette, a grade 5/6 teacher at Forest Grove, has authored a book called, *The City Game*. In this book for educators, she shares her secret to student engagement where she actually creates a city within her classroom. As students take turns playing the role of Mayor and other key citizens, independence and empathy is fostered through classroom role play.

Two books have recently been published by teachers at Byrne Creek Community School. An AP Physics textbook, *Edvantage Science*, by Science teacher **Stephen Fuerderer**, is designed to challenge the best science minds. And the graphic novel *Nighthawk & Little Elk* by English Language teacher **Ilonka Harris** is an international hit. It has been translated into seven languages, including four Indigenous languages.

Congratulations to all. We are very proud of your literary accomplishments!

OUTDOOR TEACHING MOMENTS

Alistar Fraser of the Telus Community Board recently presented Outward Bound Canada and the Burnaby School District with a grant of \$10,000 to support secondary students at Royal Oak and the Burnaby Youth Hub. These funds will provide outdoor experiential learning opportunities over the course of this school year. Through engaging in outdoor experiences, and learning survival and leadership skills, students gain confidence, responsibility and independence.

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WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

Ms. Keilty's grade 4/5 class at South Slope Elementary recently participated in a pilot project of the Intentional Acts of Kindness (IAK) Foundation, an organization that fosters opportunities for youth to be instrumental in building positive communities.

The students chose to create a surprise ice cream party for two grade 4/5 classes at Edmonds Community School. After weeks of planning, the day finally arrived and they excitedly set up their ice cream stations in the Edmonds gym. As the surprised Edmonds students received their treat, they were introduced to a South Slope student to get to know better. These new connections were so much fun that the students at South Slope have become pen pals with their new friends at Edmonds!

As everyone learned, kindness is contagious – and the students at Edmonds Community School are excitedly planning their own intentional act of kindness. What will it be?

RUNNING FOR TERRY

The Terry Fox Run continues to be the grand finale to a busy back to school month in the District. Last year, 38 Burnaby schools participated and raised almost \$50,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation to support cancer research, and this year the tradition continued. Special congratulations to those elementary schools that have been "Running for Terry" for 29 years. They include Chaffey-Burke, Parkcrest, Cascade Heights, and Inman. And thanks to all the students and staff who took the time to run and make a difference in the fight against cancer.